



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
Region Four
310 New Bern Avenue, Suite 410
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601
April 21, 1997

IN REPLY REFER TO
HRT-NC

Mr. B. G. Jenkins, Jr., P.E.
Deputy Administrator- Preconstruction
Division of Highways
Raleigh, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Jenkins:

Subject: *Smartlink Sign Placement*

In our effort to partner with the NCDOT Public Education and Information subcommittee of the CARAT Executive Committee, we were asked to give an opinion on the configuration and placement of the "Smartlink" logo that was developed to communicate to the public the area of Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) along the Interstate 77 corridor in Charlotte. The "Smartlink" sign was developed through a coordinated effort of the partners in the CARAT project.

We consulted with the FHWA Headquarters Highway Safety Office and determined that an exception to the MUTCD is not warranted in this case. The "Smartlink" logo sign should be placed on a blue background and a white boarder as prescribed by the MUTCD General Motorist Signs. The "Smartlink" sign should be supported by two breakaway posts and be placed on the highway shoulder so that it should not interfere with existing signs. The use of the "Smartlink" logo along future ITS Interstate corridors should follow the same procedures and be used on a limited basis.

If we can be of any further assistance please feel free to call on us.

Sincerely yours,

Bradley J. Hilts

For Nicholas L. Graf, P.E.
Division Administrator

cc: Don Goins
✓Jimmy Lynch
Len Sanderson
Jimmy Travis
Benton Payne